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**REDUCED RATES TO CLUBS.**  
A dispatch in the Journal recently referred to a scientific report which probably settles the much discussed question as to the origin of the aboriginal inhabitants of the American continent. When Columbus discovered America the Indians called because of the erroneous belief that he had discovered the eastern shores of Asia—were here in large numbers, scattered over the whole of North and South America. Where they came from, how they got here and how long they had been here has been a subject of endless speculation by scientists and laymen. As the Indians themselves had no definite traditions on the subject the field was open for the widest speculation. It even developed different theories as to the origin of the human race, for if man was evolved originally from several centers it was held that America must have included one of them, while if he sprang from a single pair it was as likely that the pair was first created or established in America as anywhere else. And if the Indians were of Asiatic or Oriental origin, the next question, equally difficult to solve, was, how did they get here? And, if they had a common origin, how were the marked variations among different tribes and among the Indians of North and South America to be accounted for, and also the great number of different languages among them? The theory of an Asiatic immigration by way of Bering strait has always found more or less support among ethnologists. It is now generally conceded that the western hemisphere had been visited by voyagers from the old world long before Columbus discovered it. It is quite possible that Japanese or Chinese vessels, blown by storms or carried by the currents of the Pacific ocean, reached the western coast of North America many hundreds of years before Columbus was born. From Europe the earliest visitors to America came from Norway by way of Iceland, and it is a matter of pretty well established tradition that they came in the latter part of the ninth century, fully five hundred years before Columbus' "discovery." The Norwegians were daring sailors and sea rovers and they made several voyages to North America before that of Columbus. They all found inhabitants who had been here apparently for centuries.

The scientific report above referred to is the result of an expedition known as the Joesup North Pacific expedition, endowed by a wealthy New Yorker and fitted out jointly by the American Museum of Natural History and the Russian Imperial Academy of Science and the Russian Imperial Geographical Society. Its object was, if possible, to solve the problem of the origin of the American Indian. The expedition consisted of two Russian scientists, learned in ethnological lore, and after two years spent among the tribes inhabiting the shores of eastern Siberia they have returned with, as they claim, conclusive proofs that the Asiatic Eskimo and the American Indian are of the same race and that originally both came from China. The proofs of this consist of some 1,500 specimens and exhibits taken from among the native tribes of Siberia. The commissions say the proofs they have obtained "are sufficient to establish forever to the civilized world that there was one round Pacific race of the same stocks as the Chinese and the Japanese." The phrase, "a round Pacific race," means that the inhabitants of China, Japan, Arctic Siberia and the Indians of North and South America were originally all one and the same race. The proofs of this conclusion are not yet made public, but they are said to be of a character to settle the question beyond doubt. This still leaves open the question how and when the Asiatics got to this continent, and how long they had been here before Columbus came, but it is something to have the main question settled.

**GREAT RESULTS FROM SMALL CAUSES.**  
It has often been remarked that apparently insignificant incidents or accidents sometimes change the whole course of a man's life, and even of history. The fact was illustrated by a statement made a few days ago during Dr. Lorenz's visit to Philadelphia. This visit, by the way, was one of the most interesting features of the great Austrian surgeon's visit to this country. Philadelphia is, in a sense, medical headquarters of the United States, having graduated more physicians and surgeons and produced more eminent operators than any other city. On this occasion Dr. Lorenz visited a hospital and reversed the usual order by himself attending a clinic by a noted Philadelphia surgeon, Dr. Keen. It was what is professionally known as a "wet" operation, that is, involving the use of the knife, and Dr. Lorenz gave his hearty approval to the skill with which it was performed. The Philadelphia surgeon had known Dr. Lorenz when the former was studying abroad, and in introducing him to the class he said that after Dr. Lorenz had climbed nearly to the top ranks of the profession in general surgery he discovered that the use of carbolic acid as a disinfectant on his hands caused an eczema which compelled him to discontinue forever the habitual practice of "wet" operations. Thus, almost at the climax of his career, he had found his ambition stilled. He was advised by some of the greatest specialists that his only hope of future usefulness as a surgeon must lie henceforth in "dry" or bloodless surgery. This seemingly trifling incident, developed suddenly, changed the whole course of his life by compelling him to turn his attention to a branch of surgery in which he was to become the most famous and successful operator the world had seen. What he then deemed a great misfortune was in reality a blessing to humanity, if not to himself. Not many men, finding a professional career balked at the acme of success in one direction, would undertake to carve out a new career in a new direction. This Dr. Lorenz did. In a little speech which he delivered at a reception tendered him by the medical pro-

fession of the city in the evening he himself referred to the incident. First, after modestly disclaiming the praise and honor that had been accorded him, he said:  
"I have never dreamt of getting a success in my life. I thought I was a little child, which I remembered often and very intensely during my trip in this country. Forty-four years ago I was a little and very poor boy. One day I found on the street a single glove, and I picked it up and I was much too large for the hand of a child. I went to my mother and showed her the glove on my hand, and she said to me: 'My dear boy, you will have to work very hard to find the other glove.' But at this happy time I did not care for the other glove."  
Then he referred briefly to the struggles of his student life while "hunting for the other glove," and of his early professional life, and said:  
"The dream of my life was to become a famous surgeon, whose daily occupation would be to rummage in the interior of his fellow-mortals. But this dream should never become true. Near to the top of the ladder I fell and I have been here ever since. I got a terrible carbolic eczema and acute idiocy against the carbolic acid, and I have been here ever since. At this time I was not yet known. While thirty years of age I had to leave my mother and my home and become a student. In this terrible period of my life I could scarcely resist the temptation to blow my brains out. Gentlemen, I know what is despair."  
He said he was happy to have discovered, after twenty years of hard work, that even "dry" surgery could be practiced with some success, and "if only the tenth part of your appreciation of my work is justified, then I may think that near to my fiftieth year I have found at last the other glove, for I got the esteem and the appreciation of my profession and many thanks from grateful mothers in many countries."

All this was well said for a foreigner who apologized for his English. In Philadelphia, as in other cities, Dr. Lorenz made a profound impression on members of the profession, and there can be no doubt but his visit to the United States will have valuable and lasting results. But for the circumstance that compelled him to abandon "wet" surgery he would never have been heard of as the founder of a new school.

**A GOOD EXAMPLE.**  
The officers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, in refusing to bribe the Tammany aldermen to vote the company a franchise to tunnel the Hudson river, have rendered the country a distinct and valuable service. The improvement which the company proposes to make at an expense of \$400,000 would be an incalculable benefit to the city of New York, as all understand, nevertheless enough aldermen to defeat the franchise have been holding out in the expectation that the company will finally give up to their representative \$124,000. All the business interests of the city and the entire press favor the granting of the franchise; indeed, the expression of the city is positive and indignant over the delay, yet the shameless aldermen refuse to budge. So lacking in moral sensitiveness are those men that it does not distress them to be denounced as men who are waiting to be purchased. To those who censure them they seem to say that the people who elected them knew them when they did so, and knew that they sought election as a means of making money. To be honorable and public-spirited men seeking the highest interests of the city was not their motive in procuring election. They would not be aldermen if they could not sell their votes. Instead of being officials desirous of the public good they are even more to be detested than the highway robber or the city footpad, because they violate no oath of office.

St. Louis discovered that a combination of councilmen of both parties had been selling their votes to franchise seekers. It was not until those aldermen became reckless that public attention was attracted to them. Now that they have been discovered they are on the road to the State prison as fast as the courts can try them. Chicago may have a board of aldermen now whose majority may not sell their votes on questions of franchise, but for years a majority was controlled by bribe-seekers. There is reason to believe that the bribe-seeking element pervades many city governments. It is unnecessary to say that such vote-selling involves many and grave dangers.

There are many ways of making war upon the bribe-taking element in city governments, but the method adopted by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is one of the most effective. If all corporations desiring proper franchises would declare in advance that no votes or official influence would be purchased the mercenary element would soon leave city governments.

**SOME OLD LAWS.**  
A Washington second-hand book dealer has recently completed for a Western historical society a collection of the books of laws enacted by the legislative bodies which governed what is now Illinois from 1787 to the admission of the State to the Union in 1818. Complete collections of these laws are very rare, and the society is fortunate in obtaining one at this late date. The volumes in this collection are all of the original, contemporaneously printed editions, and some of them are more than a century old. The interest, if not the value, of such books consists largely in their being original editions and not reprints.

Most readers of general history know that Illinois, like Indiana, was originally embraced in the Northwest Territory, which was first brought under American government by the celebrated ordinance of 1787. The territory as first organized embraced the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. When the Declaration of Independence was made all this territory was as foreign to the original thirteen colonies as Canada was, but we did not succeed in conquering Canada, while we did the other territory. Our conquest of the Northwest Territory as a result of the revolutionary war was the first instance of territorial conquest in our history, so it is literally true that our national existence began with expansion on a large scale. When the Northwest Territory was first created, in 1787, it was under one government, the capital being at Marietta, O. No other territorial Governor ever had as extensive jurisdiction as did Arthur St. Clair, the first Governor of the Northwest Territory. His wide jurisdiction continued from February, 1788, till May, 1800, when Indiana Territory was created, with a new Governor. Michigan remained a part of Indiana Territory until 1805 and Illinois till 1809, when it was made a separate Territory. From 1807 until 1809 the territorial government of the entire

Northwest Territory was located at Marietta, O., and from 1800 until 1809 the territorial government of Illinois, as a part of Indiana Territory, was at Vincennes. These successive changes of government, together with other interesting matters of local history, are partially indicated by the territorial laws of the period. The first two volumes were printed at Philadelphia by the official printers of the United States, there being no printing press in the Northwest Territory. It was not till 1796 that a press was established at Cincinnati, and later at Chillicothe, the capital of the Territory and afterwards of the State of Ohio. When Indiana Territory was set off in 1800 there was no printing press within its limits, and its first book of laws was printed at Frankfort, Ky. By the time the second book of laws was ready to be printed a printing press had been brought to Vincennes, and the laws governing Illinois continued to be printed there until it became a separate Territory in 1809. It was at Vincennes, for instance, that the laws of 1807 were printed, one of which provided that "It shall be lawful for any person possessing any negro or mulatto over the age of fifteen years, and owing service as a slave, to bring the said negro or mulatto into this Territory." That applied to Illinois as well as to Indiana. Another section of the law provided that if any slave or servant should be found at a distance of ten miles from the tenement of his or her master without a pass, or some letter or token, whereby it might appear that he or she was proceeding by authority of the employer or overseer, it should be lawful for any person to apprehend such slave or servant, and to take him or her before the justice of peace, who might at his discretion award a not to be excoed thirty-five lashes. These old laws, including those relating to slavery and others illustrating the beginning of government in the Northwest Territory, have been reprinted in other forms, but a complete collection of the original publications possesses peculiar interest.

**THE SLEEPER'S SECRET.**  
Hardly a day passes that the dispatches fall to record a fresh case of long-continued sleep in one part of the country or another. Yesterday it was a St. Louis woman who had just awakened from a six days' sleep. A day or two ago it was a Pennsylvania girl who was entering upon her third week of uninterrupted slumber. It might be said, of course, by frivolous persons, that to live in St. Louis or in the vicinity of Philadelphia is enough to drive anyone to sleep in self-defense against monotony, but however true this may be it is not a comprehensive explanation of the phenomenon. It is not long since Indiana had a sleeping girl, and life in Indiana, as every one knows, is sufficiently exciting to wake up the inhabitants once in twenty-four hours. Sometimes, indeed, as in certain lively whitecap districts, they are likely to be awakened before morning and at most unseasonably hours.

Since it is obvious that a sameness in the daily routine cannot be accepted as a common cause of prolonged repose, some other reason must be looked for. It is noticeable that these sleepers are almost invariably women. It is suggested by a slanderous masculine observer that they are recuperating from overmuch use of their conversational powers. This explanation may be summarily rejected, since there is good ground for the conviction that women are not only never exhausted by their own talk but, on the contrary, thrive upon it. Nor can it be the strain of hard physical labor that overcomes them. Most, if not all, of the women on record for week-long "naps" belong to the class not engaged in arduous manual toil. Other women and many men, laboring far more severely than they, get up every morning of their lives and go about their affairs quite wide awake. It is true that such persons are sometimes difficult to rouse and often are known to express the wish that they might sleep for a week—but they never do.

The natural conclusion is that it is mental weariness which causes their extended periods of somnolence. But what makes them so tired? It will not do to retaliate upon the cynical male critic by intimating that perhaps loquacious men persons have nearly talked them to death, for no normal self-respecting woman ever allows herself to be worn out in a talking bout. Whence, then, comes the irresistible disposition to coma? It is the custom of professional and Chicago University critics of the modern woman to charge all her vagaries and her unaccountable actions to the influence of the club, so it is only following the usual procedure to ask what the club has to do with the recent feminine tendency to sleep by the week. In deciding this matter, the difficulty is that no statistics are available to show whether or not the sleepers are members of clubs. Therefore it is impossible to say whether they are tired to the point of total exhaustion from going to clubs, or whether they are reduced to a state of lethargy because they lack the benefits of these sprightly and inspiring organizations. It is a problem that ought to be of much interest to societies devoted to sociology and general reform, and the Journal takes pleasure in commending it to the consideration of the Indianapolis Local Council. If this body discovers the secret it should by all means make it known to the world, as there is reason to suspect that numerous persons who have no inkling of it would be glad of a recipe which would enable them occasionally to lie down at night and let the world go by until they waked up next week.

**AS TO BELIEF IN MIRACLES.**  
People who keep in touch even in a general way with matters theological are aware that not only the public in general but the teachers of church doctrine have ceased to accept many of the Biblical stories as facts, regarding them as myths and traditions whose rejection in nowise affects the accompanying spiritual truths. Even the most orthodox teachers in these days seldom insist upon the literal acceptance of the story of the creation, the story of Jonah and the whale, etc. But the features which these spiritual guides have been willing to pass by as mythical or as figures of speech belong to the Old Testament, which somehow has been looked upon as in a degree less sacred and infallible than the New Testament. They have insisted upon the acceptance of the latter, not only as to its teachings, but its illustrative incidents. Whatever the members of their flock or the people outside may have secretly believed, these orthodox leaders of religious thought have not abated a jot or tittle of their adherence to the New Testament as a document of

facts. It is, therefore, rather startling to find in the New York Independent, which has always been a promulgator of the evangelical faith, an editorial acknowledgment that a belief in the miracles is not essential. It admits a general recession of faith in miracles, even in the churches which repeat the Apostles' creed, and sees in the apologetic attitude toward them a real difficulty rather than an aid to faith. "We still hold to the miracles," it says, "but are looking for our lines of retreat." Then it goes on to say:  
"Belief in miracle is a purely intellectual act. It is not ethical or spiritual. It has nothing to do with character. It depends on arguments, on evidence. It goes when evidence goes. So far as it is religious, it is concerned solely with the theological side of religion, with its philosophy or its history."  
It points out that if miracles should be discredited in history the truths of the gospel must always remain, and adds in conclusion:  
"So, if the miracles should one of these days have to go, we should still hold fast to all the duty, the obligation, the service, the character, the new heart, the holy life of love, and should still believe that we had retained all that was vital in Christianity, all that the miracle was used to support."

All of which is very true, but so frank an acknowledgment from such an authoritative source is none the less surprising. Some of the evangelical brethren, who have not yet attained to the courage of their convictions, to say nothing of the yet firm in the faith, are likely to criticize the Independent for its courageous speaking.

A speech delivered in the House of Representatives a few days ago by Hon. Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania, on the relations of capital and labor, is said to be the last he will deliver in the House. He will retire at the end of his present term at the age of seventy-nine years. Mr. Grow took his seat in Congress in 1851, being then its youngest member, as he is now its oldest. He was first nominated and elected by the Democratic party. He had been a law partner of David Wilmont, a free-soil Democrat, who represented the district in Congress previous to Mr. Grow's election. Wilmont was the author of the celebrated "Wilmont proviso," which marked one of the epochs in the discussion of the slavery question and which was presented in Congress in 1846. After that the congressional district which he represented, and Mr. Grow after him, was known as the "Wilmont district." Although elected as a Democrat, Mr. Grow was an anti-slavery man, and when the lines began to be drawn he became a Republican. He was the first Republican speaker of the House, having been elected in 1861. His first speech in the House was in favor of the homestead bill, a measure which he continued to urge at every Congress for ten years and at last had the satisfaction of signing the law as speaker. It was one of the most important and beneficent measures ever passed by Congress. It was largely through Mr. Grow's efforts that the bill for the admission of Kansas as a State was passed in 1860. William H. Seward, then in the Senate, engineering it through that body. Mr. Grow was out of public life for many years, and when he returned to Congress a few years ago he found a new generation of statesmen. As his first speech in Congress was in favor of the homestead bill it was fitting that his last should be in favor of improving the conditions of labor, of which he said: "The pillars of the Republic rest upon the comfort of the home and the happiness of the freese of labor."

Even if Castro were inclined to meet the demands of Great Britain and Germany he could not get the money, a fact which both these governments must have understood. There is no money in the treasury, and, after a revolution of five years, the industries of the country have been suspended, the purchasing power of the people is exhausted and they have nothing with which to pay taxes. Besides, Venezuela has long had a reputation for not paying its debts. During the Hayes administration an effort was made to collect several hundred thousand dollars owed to American citizens. When the British and German subjects made their investments in Venezuela they knew the bad reputation of the government as to paying debts.

It is said that several counties in New Mexico which issued bonds a few years ago in order to get money for courthouses, schoolhouses and other public improvements, have refused for some time to pay the interest thereon. Because of this breach of good faith the victims will ask Congress to insert an amendment in the bill requiring such delinquent counties to pay their debts before the Territory is admitted to the Union. A similar amendment was made to the bill admitting one of the new States, and it led to immediate payment.

In 1868 this government sent a special commission and a powerful fleet to demand the payment of claims and other satisfaction from Paraguay, whose President-dictator had assumed a defiant attitude toward the United States. He yielded at the last moment and it was not necessary to deliver the blow which had been prepared. If he had not yielded we should have adopted measures as severe as any contemplated by Great Britain and Germany against Venezuela.

The suggestion that the name of Oklahoma be changed to Jefferson recalls the fact that Thomas Jefferson himself once proposed some names. In 1784 he, as chairman of a committee to lay out new States in the interior of the continent, reported a plan for ten States of very undefined boundaries. Some of the names of the proposed States were borrowed from the Latin, some from the Greek, while others were Latinized forms of names the Indians had given to the rivers. One State was to be called Sylvania, on account of its forests; another, because of a long tongue of land separating it from the northern lakes, was to be named Cherroneus. Other names were Michigan, Assenipia, Metropotamia, Illinois, Saratoga, Washington, Polytopamia and Pelisipia. The only punishment Jefferson ever received for proposing some of these names for States was the rejection of all of them by the Congress.

"Pauline" writes a letter to the Outlook asking to have a clearer insight into the ways of peace and righteousness, and going into some detail as to her spiritual woes. The communication is answered by Rev. Lyman Abbott, the editor, and that distinguished guide to ways that are holy calmly intimates that Pauline's sorrowful state of mind may be due to physical causes. It may, he boldly suggests, be owing to indigestion. Fancy the feelings of a woman who wants her soul looked after on being told that she has a stomach ailment, but that she must first get her stomach taken care of! It takes a spiritual

leader of much courage to offer such a suggestion, and it is possible that even Lyman Abbott himself would not have given a hint of this character except at long range.

A young man who has been reading the discussion whether a person can live on \$300 a year and lay up \$100 writes to the New York Sun that he has done so, and gives an itemized account of his expenses, as follows:  
Receipts for the year..... \$300.00  
Board and room—promised to pay the balance..... \$100.00  
Two suits of clothes—promised to pay the balance..... 10.00  
Laundry—promised to pay the balance..... 2.00  
Hats, shoes, gents' wear—promised to pay the balance..... 13.00  
Cigars and tobacco—promised to pay the balance..... 3.00  
Drinks, shows and incidentals—promised to pay the balance..... 47.00  
Car fare, papers, etc.—no credit..... 12.00  
Charity—no credit..... 7.50  
Shine a week, shave myself..... 3.10  
Stamps, stationery and incidentals..... 50  
Total..... \$290.00  
Balance on hand..... 10.00  
\$300.00 \$300.00

He says any young man of thrift and prudence can do the same if he will only heed the simplest principles of economy and wisely avail himself of his opportunities. He admits that the only thing that troubled him was what to do with the \$100 he had left over. It will be surprising if that young man does not become a Napoleon of finance.

The humors of newspaper illustration are shown in an interview with Mr. Carnegie in a New York paper. Soon after his recent arrival from England a reporter visited him at his hotel, and among other things, asked him how he liked his new Fifth-avenue home. "I have not seen it yet," said the owner, "and do not care to talk about it until I enter it." "But," persisted the anxious reporter, "my paper has a picture which shows you entering the mansion and it would like to have something from you on the subject." In spite of urging, Mr. Carnegie refused to talk, and the too enterprising paper was unable to live up to its picture of him.

The "Colonial Dames of America," the "Colonial Dames of New York" and the "National Society of Colonial Dames of America" are having a three-cornered legal fight at Albany, N. Y., to determine which society shall have the exclusive right to the name "colonial dames." In order to be regarded as entirely unprejudiced, also in order to have some "meat" of his life afterward the judge who decides the question ought to be one whose ancestors "came over" within the last fifty years.

The price of pianos has gone up. Any one who has failed to lay in his winter stock early will have to pay well for his neglect.

**THE HUMORISTS.**  
The Secret.  
Philadelphia Ledger.  
"Colonel, would you mind telling me how you made your first \$10,000?"  
"Well, at all; I made it by attending strictly to business—my own business, you know."

Exactly.  
"Tis now the season of the year  
When Christmas goblins we buy,  
Chuck full of jocos and Christmas cheer,  
All written last July."  
—Philadelphia Record.

A Christmas Paradox.  
She has all things beneath the sky  
Which could demand or heart request.  
Yet strange! That's just the reason why  
We must give her the very best!  
—Madeline Bridges, in Collier's Weekly.

A Financial Statement.  
Will Carlton's Magazine.  
"What per cent. do you make on your papers?"  
"asked the customer of the newsboy."  
"Just 1 per cent," replied the little fellow.  
"Why, that is a very small profit. What do you say for them?"  
"I pay 1 cent apiece and get two."

The Only Thing to Do.  
Philadelphia Press.  
"Doctor," said the fussy invalid, "I understand the only proper way to breathe is through the nose. Now, sometimes I wake up and find my mouth wide open."  
"Well," said Dr. Gruff.  
"Well, what shall I do?"  
"Get up and shut it, of course."

Busy.  
Washington Star.  
"There's no use of talkin'," said Mrs. Corn-tassel, "this thing of bein' a congressman must mean some mighty hard work."  
"I don't see why."  
"Jeez! think of it! A congressman packs up an' goes to Washington, an' he doesn't no more get settled than along came a vacation an' he's got to pack up an' move home again!"

Heard Up the Shaft.  
New York Times.  
Mr. Harlemlat (pettishly)—George, I wish you would rock the baby.  
Harlemlat (gruffly)—What'll I rock the baby for?  
Mr. Harlemlat (bristling)—Because he's not very well, and what's more, half of him is yours, and you should not object to rocking him.  
Harlemlat—Well, don't half belong to you?  
Mr. Harlemlat—Yes.  
Harlemlat—Well, you can rock your half and let my half holler.

A Voice from the Crib.  
Toddle, with a tearful face,  
Came and climbed upon my knee,  
Cuddled in his favorite place,  
Saying mournfully to me:  
"Dest as soon as supper's done  
Mamma makes me go to bed."  
So, to soothe my little one,  
"Mamma knows what's best," I said.  
Later, as I ate a bite,  
Toddle's watchful mamma said:  
"John, you shouldn't eat at night,  
Just before you go to bed."  
And the baby, peeping out  
From his sleepy eyes of blue,  
Muttered: "Ain't that dest about  
What you always make me do?"  
—Brooklyn Eagle.

**ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.**  
In consequence of the recent attempt upon his life King Leopold of Belgium determined not to ride in his motor car in the future, and has ordered it fixed.

Miss Mary Andrews, of Hamilton, O., has been installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Kansas City. She is the only woman preacher in Missouri.

Dr. Lyman Abbott, who has been living at Cornwall, N. Y., has rented a property on Thirty-eighth street, New York city, where he will shortly take up his residence.

Thomas F. Walsh, the Colorado millionaire, is having erected for his eleven-year-old son in Washington a fully equipped theater, intended to develop the dramatic talent of the boy.

J. H. Seaverns, a native of New Jersey, is a candidate for Parliament in one of the London districts. He has lived in England for some ten years and recently became a naturalized British subject.

A knowledge of English is now considered necessary for business purposes in Mexico, and according to a decree published last September that language is hereafter to be taught orally in the public schools.

Edward Butler, of St. Louis, has the peculiar distinction of having been dead and brought to life, but only in a legal sense, her soul, but was her stomach taken care of! It takes a spiritual

qualified as a bondsman for friend, and, in accepting Mr. Butler, the court reversed a former decision which declared that he was civilly dead.

Charley Wiggin, a colored woman, and the mother of the well-known pianist, Blind Tom, has just died at Birmingham, Ga. She was born in slavery and belonged to the family of General James N. Balthus. Sarah Bernhardt was the guest of honor at a reception given by the Berlin Opera Club previous to her recent first appearance as an actress in the German capital. Three hundred newspaper workers were on hand to greet her.

A story is told of Arthur Balfour's experience as secretary for Ireland which illustrates both his unpopularity and the wit of the celebrated Father Healey. Balfour asked the priest on one occasion: "Do the Irish really hate me as much as the newspapers say?" "My dear sir," was Father Healey's answer, "if they only hated the devil half as much as they hate you, your occupation would be gone."

Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Shaw observed their silver wedding in Washington on Saturday by giving a dinner. The fact that Secretary and Mrs. Shaw had been married twenty-five years was not generally known. Mrs. Shaw declared that the dinner that no intimation was given in the cards of one such young lady as was a man knows the greater is his degree."

On the eve of Minister Wu's departure from Washington a young woman of his acquaintance said to him that she hoped to visit China some day, as what he had told her about his native country had been so interesting. "Why Chinese take four or five wives," she added, "why Chinese take so many in order that they may find in all of them the beauties and accomplishments of one such young lady as I am." In Finland a novel form of vapor bath has recently become popular. A person who proposes to enjoy it lies at full length in a hammock, which is suspended over a large tub filled with ice cold water. An attendant then throws into the water some hot bricks, wrapped in vapor-arresting and envelopes the person lying in the hammock. For some minutes the attendant allows him to remain exposed to the steam, and then, after removing the bricks, he gives the hammock a jerk, and the gentleman in it comes down into the cold water. Those who have tried this method of bathing say the sensation is quite novel, and that the sudden plunge into the cold water really invigorates them.

**WISDOM OF CURRENT FICTION.**  
The lady on the dollar is the only woman who hasn't any sentiment in her make-up.—Letters of a Self-made Merchant.  
As I said before, there are disadvantages in being well born—one cannot tell lies like servants.—The Reflections of Ambrose.  
It is a curious feminine phenomenon that girls regard all boys of their own age as being peculiarly young.—Tangled Up in Beulah Land.  
Those who have suffered from jealousy know that it is physical, they know that it can no more be argued away than can any other distemper.—The Dear Departed.  
A great man is a great traitor that sweeps much along with him, and if he be running on to destruction he takes half the world with him on his way to do it.—History of Mr. John.  
Lying in the dark with one's face to the land of dreams one takes on a vast courage and no little wit. Every man is a Napoleon, and never a Waterloo; the man beaten in life is only a Napoleon struts like the king he really is.—Edgess.  
Philosophy seems to settle everything in life and enables one to take the ups and downs of fate, the good and the bad, with a smiling face. I mean to study it always, but I dare say I will be called when I am older.—The Reflections of Ambrose.  
All the Burtons were endowed with a very saving faith in themselves and a very sincere admiration for each other; and—which is the most curious and strange (and conjugal) happiness—they appreciated and applauded each other's jokes to the full.—Fuel of Fire.  
A \$12 clerk who owes \$32 for roses needs a keeper more than a wife. I want to say right here that there always comes a time to the fellow who blows \$52 at a lick on roses when he thinks how many staple groceries he could have bought with the money.—Letters of a Self-made Merchant.  
There is no use in trying to outgrow the souvenirs of the heart. They are not hung like fading pictures on the wall of our memory. They are imbedded like fossils in the crystal of the heart, and when we come to light at the touch of passing showers or the disintegrating finger of time itself.—Tangled Up in Beulah Land.  
Women are so afraid of loneliness. Existence can so soon become for them dull, barren, gray and insane. And they drift into these hopeless, terrible attachments; they do not see that they were not made to give love, but to accept it. They squander their devotion on the wrong man, and receive in its infancy, or in illness only. A prudent woman will permit herself to be worshipped, but she will never provide for a keeps a close guard over her own affections.—Love and the Soul Hunters.

**THE PANAMA CANAL.**  
The Chagres River Is Not Difficult to Control.  
Far from being a stream suit general, practically beyond control by ordinary methods, the Chagres river is really less formidable than the class of streams engineers are entirely accustomed to improve. It is, indeed, extraordinarily similar in its flood-behavior to the Roanoke river, above Neal, N. C. It has never approached such extremes of oscillation or rapidity of rise as are shown by the Warrior or Black Warrior rivers of Alabama. The flood over known did not reach forty feet; the most rapid rise was twenty-five feet in seventeen hours. Such oscillations would not attract more than passing notice in the river cities of the Western United States. The entire feasibility of regulating the Chagres is well understood by most engineers. But the best method of securing both regulation and conservation of the water supply of the canal during the dry season is in more danger of misapprehension. The Isthmian canal commission, being under great pressure for an early report, had no time to investigate details; their function was to receive the Chagres working plans. They adopted, merely as a peg upon which to hang a comparative son of a gun, the plan of the canal reserve, that is, one by which the Chagres is to be confined in one great summit lake by a single dam at Bohio, twenty-seven miles from the sea.  
The objections to this are, briefly: That to store in the head of the canal reserve for operations and wastage would involve a dam and a summit level higher than desirable for construction. The dam would increase head above the dam would occasion larger loss by infiltration through the underlying strata, partly defeating its own purpose; and again, even at the utmost height which could be contemplated, the single lake would still receive the Chagres with flood force near Gamboa, and objectionable currents and eddies, silt up the water with interference with navigation.  
The alternative is the two-lake project, determined by the exhaustive studies of the Comite Technique. By building a second dam at Alajuela, twenty-nine miles above the first, the water would be stored in two reservoirs, and gain the following advantages: The lower reservoir, constituted by the summit of the Chagres, would have much less elevation above sea, as it would be required to store only about two-fifths of the total reserve. The upper reservoir, at Alajuela, would reduce the head to seventy feet, greatly diminishing the loss by leakage through the bottom strata, and the danger of the lower lake could be so controlled at the second dam, confining the upper lake, as never to reach the almost inconvenience or delay to navigation.

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**REDUCED RATES TO CLUBS.**  
A dispatch in the Journal recently referred to a scientific report which probably settles the much discussed question as to the origin of the aboriginal inhabitants of the American continent. When Columbus discovered America the Indians called because of the erroneous belief that he had discovered the eastern shores of Asia—were here in large numbers, scattered over the whole of North and South America. Where they came from, how they got here and how long they had been here has been a subject of endless speculation by scientists and laymen. As the Indians themselves had no definite traditions on the subject the field was open for the widest speculation. It even developed different theories as to the origin of the human race, for if man was evolved originally from several centers it was held that America must have included one of them, while if he sprang from a single pair it was as likely that the pair was first created or established in America as anywhere else. And if the Indians were of Asiatic or Oriental origin, the next question, equally difficult to solve, was, how did they get here? And, if they had a common origin, how were the marked variations among different tribes and among the Indians of North and South America to be accounted for, and also the great number of different languages among them? The theory of an Asiatic immigration by way of Bering strait has always found more or less support among ethnologists. It is now generally conceded that the western hemisphere had been visited by voyagers from the old world long before Columbus discovered it. It is quite possible that Japanese or Chinese vessels, blown by storms or carried by the currents of the Pacific ocean, reached the western coast of North America many hundreds of years before Columbus was born. From Europe the earliest visitors to America came from Norway by way of Iceland, and it is a matter of pretty well established tradition that they came in the latter part of the ninth century, fully five hundred years before Columbus' "discovery." The Norwegians were daring sailors and sea rovers and they made several voyages to North America before that of Columbus. They all found inhabitants who had been here apparently for centuries.

The scientific report above referred to is the result of an expedition known as the Joesup North Pacific expedition, endowed by a wealthy New Yorker and fitted out jointly by the American Museum of Natural History and the Russian Imperial Academy of Science and the Russian Imperial Geographical Society. Its object was, if possible, to solve the problem of the origin of the American Indian. The expedition consisted of two Russian scientists, learned in ethnological lore, and after two years spent among the tribes inhabiting the shores of eastern Siberia they have returned with, as they claim, conclusive proofs that the Asiatic Eskimo and the American Indian are of the same race and that originally both came from China. The proofs of this consist of some 1,500 specimens and exhibits taken from among the native tribes of Siberia. The commissions say the proofs they have obtained "are sufficient to establish forever to the civilized world that there was one round Pacific race of the same stocks as the Chinese and the Japanese." The phrase, "a round Pacific race," means that the inhabitants of China, Japan, Arctic Siberia and the Indians of North and South America were originally all one and the same race. The proofs of this conclusion are not yet made public, but they are said to be of a character to settle the question beyond doubt. This still leaves open the question how and when the Asiatics got to this continent, and how long they had been here before Columbus came, but it is something to have the main question settled.

**GREAT RESULTS FROM SMALL CAUSES.**  
It has often been remarked that apparently insignificant incidents or accidents sometimes change the whole course of a man's life, and even of history. The fact was illustrated by a statement made a few days ago during Dr. Lorenz's visit to Philadelphia. This visit, by the way, was one of the most interesting features of the great Austrian surgeon's visit to this country. Philadelphia is, in a sense, medical headquarters of the United States, having graduated more physicians and surgeons and produced more eminent operators than any other city. On this occasion Dr. Lorenz visited a hospital and reversed the usual order by himself attending a clinic by a noted Philadelphia surgeon, Dr. Keen. It was what is professionally known as a "wet" operation, that is, involving the use of the knife, and Dr.